

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /048 W

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O R 062030Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2098

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIO DE JANEIRO 0423

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR; BR

SUBJECT: PAN AM EVICTED FROM FIXED COUNTER POSITION AT CONGONHAS
AIRPORT

REF: RIO DE JANEIRO 419

1. PAN AM LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE CALLED ON CONGEN OFFICER
AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 6 TO REPORT THAT LOCAL AIRPORT
AUTHORITIES PHYSICALLY REMOVED PAN AM FROM ITS FIXED
COUNTER SPACE AT CONGONHAS (SAO PAULO) AIRPORT. ACTION
TAKEN UNDER RECENTLY ESTABLISHED POLICY THAT OFF-LINE
INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS SHOULD OCCUPY ROTATING OR
SHARED COUNTER SPACE. SUCH CARRIERS WOULD EVENTUALLY
BE MOVED COMPLETELY OUT OF CONGONHAS.

2. PAN AM OBJECTS STRENUOUSLY TO THIS ACTION
ON FOLLOWING GROUNDS: (A) COMPANY HOLDS LEASE FOR
FIXED COUNTER SPACE/OFFICE SPACE IN INTERNATIONAL WING OF
CONGONHAS. COMPANY HAD AGREED TO MOVE TEMPORARILY WHILE
THIS SPACE WAS BEING REFURBISHED, BUT WITH UNDERSTANDING
IT WOULD RETURN TO THAT OR EQUIVALENT FIXED POSITION.
(B) PAN AM SERVES LARGE PASSENGER AND CARGO MARKET
ORIGINATING AT CONGONHAS. (C) PAN AM IS PERHAPS OLDEST
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TENANT AT AIRPORT AND HAS LEASED RIGHTS UNDER ITS CIVIL/

COMMERCIAL CONTRACT. (D) PAN AM IS A FOREIGN CARRIER WHICH SHOULD RECEIVE RECIPROCITY. US DOES NOT RESTRICT FIXED COUNTER POSITION TO ON-LINE OPERATORS. (E) LOSS OF FIXED COUNTER SPACE WILL SERIOUSLY HAMPER PAN AM OPERATIONS IN SAO PAULO AREA, AND IMPEDIMENT COMPANY CAN ILL AFFORD AT THIS TIME.

3. LOCAL PAN AM REP HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DELIVER PROTEST LETTER TO BRAZILIAN CIVIAL AVIATION AUTHORITIES (DAC). HE REQUESTS THAT CONGEN OFFICER AND ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER ACCOMPANY HIM OR MAKE PARALLEL DEMARCHE AT DAC.

4. CONGEN OFFICER RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD NOTIFY WASHINGTON AND REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS.

5. ACTION RECOMMENDED CONSULATE GENERAL RECOMMENDS: (A) THAT CONGEN SAO PAULO IMMEDIATELY VERIFY WITH AUTHORITIES AT CONGONHAS REASONS FOR ACTION TAKEN AGAINST PAN AM AND WHETHER DECISION WAS MADE AT LOCAL OR AT DAC RIO LEVEL. (B) IF SAO PAULO REPORT CONFIRMS THAT DECISION TAKEN AT DAC RIO LEVEL, WE PROPOSE TO CALL UPON DAC DIRECTOR INDEPENDENTLY OF PAN AM APPROACH. WE WOULD HOPE MAKE SUCH APPROACH FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, GIVEN IMPENDING LONG HOLIDAY PERIOD.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, DISPUTES, AIRLINES, AIRPORTS, LEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RIODE00423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750044-0462
From: RIO DE JANEIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750266/aaaachlw.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 RIO DE JANEIRO 419
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAN AM EVICTED FROM FIXED COUNTER POSITION AT CONGONHAS AIRPORT
TAGS: EAIR, BR, US, PANAM
To: STATE SAO PAULO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006